

“Easter . . . Christian or Pagan?”



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"EASTER... Christian or Pagan?"

We know many will not get past the first page of this booklet as it attacks something they dearly believe in; but because someone tells you that Satan has two horns, a pitchfork, a spade tail and wears red, longhandle underwear, does this make it true? If you have heard him described this way since you were in the first grade of Sunday School, you may very well believe it to be so. But that description is FALSE, as are many other "traditions" in the church.

If anyone is fed a lie long enough, it will eventually take on the appearance of truth. If the older generations are not deceived, it can become reality to the generations to come.

One may say we are out to change the Christian world with a NEW GOSPEL. But the truth of the matter is; we are trying to get the Christians back to the Gospel of Jesus Christ!

Paul warned the early Church to beware of anyone preaching a gospel other than the Gospel he preached. This warning came a few short years after Jesus was crucified. It is now nearly 2,000 years later!

We ask that you take this booklet and research the Scripture verses cited, then try to prove this truth to be false. He will love you for it, and so will we. If any minister tells you this is false teaching, we charge him to document his data for you, or to bring it to our attention. We can then reason together.

In addition to Easter, many of you are taught from childhood to observe Lent, Holy Week, Good Friday, and to be sure to always attend Easter Sunrise service. As we delve into these deceptions, we will learn who the perpetrators are and how they have led the "sheep" astray. We will learn the truth of these false traditions, but whether we accept the truth or not, and are willing to give up these "traditions of man", will be up to each of us individually.

- IGNORANCE TO HIS WORD -

Most Christians are led to believe that Easter Sunday is the second most sacred day of the year. They have been told that Easter means Jesus Christ's resurrection, but it has NOTHING to do with Him nor did He have anything to do with it! Due to our "sheep" instincts, we follow the popes, pastors, and other leaders of our different church denominations. We have allowed idolatry to enter our worship service. There are Christians who do not attend church services at any time of the year other than at Easter and Christmas. This is evidence of how completely many Christians have been deceived. Even nonChristians worship on these pleasing holidays!

There are no "Church Services" that take the place of our complete, humble worship of our God, the God of Abraham, God Moses, the Creator of everything that was created. We are not to just worship Him on certain days, but to love Him and worship Him continually; even every hour of every day. Yes, we are to pray to Him even when we are not in need!

Now, let us check out the very meaning of Easter and find out if it is of Christ or Satan. Webster's New Twentieth Century Dictionary, Unabridged (c 1970) explains the meaning as: "Easter, n. (ME. ester, ester; AS, eastre, eastran, a paschal feast, originally a pagan festival in honor of the Goddess of Spring, Eastre, held in April.) From Mr. Webster, you may have already started forming an opinion as to the validity of Easter, but read further on as to what God's Holy Word has to say about the subject.

The "paschal feast", referred to by Mr. Webster, comes from the Greek PASCHA, which means Passover! Every time PASCHA was used in the original Greek text, it has NOW been properly translated to read the Passover except in Acts 12:4 in the KJV where "Easter" was slipped in in place of Passover. Even this has been corrected in modern translations such as; Modern Language, The Living Bible, The Revised Standard Editions, and The King James is corrected in the Open Bible. So now we must come to the conclusion that the word EASTER was never meant to be in our bible, nor were we to set aside a time to worship the goddess of that name.

HOW EASTER WAS SLIPPED INTO THE CHRISTIAN SERVICE

Grolier's NEW BOOK OF KNOWLEDGE, 1966, Vol. 5, p. 41-42, gives the following account: "...Easter Sunday falls sometime between March 22 and April 25. It falls on the first Sunday after the first FULL MOON following March 21, the vernal equinox... The date of Easter was established by the church council of Nicaea in A.D. 325."

According to Compton's Encyclopedia, 1971, Vol. 5, p. 336, we are told that Emperor Constantine established Christianity as the state religion in 324 A.D.

To settle questions of doctrine, Constantine called the first ecumenical council at Nicaea in 325 A.D. The Nicene creed was adopted as binding doctrine. Any who departed from that creed were regarded as heretics and disciplined by excommunication or anathema (nonexistence).

- A NEW CHURCH - A NEW GOSPEL -

Not mentioned in the above accounts was the fact that this church was the infant Roman Catholic church, which was the only church permitted. The feuding became so fierce that the patriarch of Constantiople broke away from Rome and headed the Eastern Orthodox, or Greek, church. This EO Church grew with branches in Russia, Greece, Serbia, Rumania, and Bulgaria. These churches still exist today.

The conflicts continued until the 16th century when the Reformation, headed by Martin Luther, exposed several false teachings of the church of Rome.

- Martin Luther (1483-1546) -

Martin Luther was born in Eisleben, Germany on 10 November 1483. His father had seen to his education until he entered the University of Erfurt. He received his master of arts degree in 1505, and entered a monastery in Erfurt. In 1507 he was ordained a priest in the Roman Catholic Church. He became a doctor of theology, professor qualified, in 1512 at the University of Wittenburg.

As one can easily see, he was well schooled in theology as well as having a good general education. Being

qualified to teach, he was also able to learn. Later, he was able to see the false teachings of his church. He was not an heretic, but was one who was eminently qualified to cut through the paganism he found in his church.

He became disturbed by his struggle to find the meaning of faith and salvation, and the traditional ways of the thinking his church taught. He turned to the teachings of the Bible. At first, he was not in rebellion against his church, but he was dissatisfied with their religious ignorance and immorality. He went to Rome and was disappointed with the Church's lack of spiritual truth.

One issue was the Church's sale of indulgences. These were documents sold by representatives of the Pope which promised forgiveness for sins. His argument was that forgiveness could not be bought, but was the free gift of God. He prepared a list of 95 theses, or papers on the subject of indulgences, and as a public statement, he nailed them to the church door in Wittenberg on 31 Oct 1517, the date of birth of the Reformation period.

Needless to report, this brought persecution by his Church. He was called an heretic, unbeliever, and revolutionary. Pope Leo X tried to talk to Luther and get him to recant his charges against the Church. At Worms, Germany in 1521, Luther defended his position by claiming that the Bible was a higher authority than the Pope. He refused to change his public views about the charges with: "My conscience is bound by the Word of God; I cannot and will not recant anything... Here I stand, I cannot do otherwise."

(Should not the Christians of today take a stand just as strong as he did for God and His Truths, against the apostasy and idolatry in their denominations? It is great to have a group to have fellowship with, but if the wrong god is the object of worship, should this not be exposed? Where the shoe fits, let it be worn.)

His excommunication from the Church soon followed. Luther became the leader of a growing protest movement, which is known today as the Protestant religion.

He went on to translate the Bible into German. For the first time people could read the Bible for themselves

and did not need to rely on a priest to read to them in Latin, then translate it to them according to the doctrine of the Church.

He wrote many books, essays and the hymn, "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God".

Luther was troubled by his church's teaching on salvation. He came to understand that God freely offers forgiveness and new life to anyone who puts his trust in Jesus Christ as the Son of God, and as the Mediator between man as sinner and God as his Saviour. His view became known as the "Doctrine of Justification by Faith".

Martin Luther died 18 February 1546, in Eisleben, Germany. He had exposed the above fallacious teachings, along with others: i.e., the idolatry brought into Christianity by the pagan-worshipping emperors of Rome.

Also, he brought many like-minded Christians out of the Church of Rome. But now, there are movements to rethink his ideas and go back into her! Is this what the book of Revelation tells us to do?

REV 17:1 And there came one of the seven angels which had the seven vials, and talked with me, saying unto me, Come hither; I will shew unto thee the judgment of the great whore that sitteth upon many waters:

17:2 With whom the kings of the earth have committed fornication, and the inhabitants of the earth have been made drunk with the wine of her fornication.

17:3 So he carried me away in the spirit into the wilderness: and I saw a woman sit upon a scarlet coloured beast, full of names of blasphemy, having seven heads and ten horns.

17:4 And the woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet colour, and decked with gold and precious stones and pearls, having a golden cup in her hand full of abominations and filthiness of her fornication:

17:5 And upon her forehead (was) a name written, MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH.

17:6 And I saw the woman drunken with the blood of the saints, and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus: and when I saw her, I wondered with great admiration*. (*Awe or amazement.)

18:3 For all nations have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication, and the kings of the earth have committed fornication with her, and the merchants of the earth are waxed rich through the abundance of her delicacies.

18:4 And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues.

18:5 For her sins have reached unto heaven, and God hath remembered her iniquities.

18:6 Reward her even as she rewarded you, and double unto her double according to her works: in the cup which she hath filled fill to her double.

18:7 How much she hath glorified herself, and lived deliciously, so much torment and sorrow give her: for she saith in her heart, I sit a queen, and am no widow, and shall see no sorrow.

(Perhaps she, the Church, is thinking about "rapturing" out of the sorrows Jesus said would come!)

In the above scriptures, the 'fornications' she has done has NOTHING to do with sex. It means that the bride of Christ, His church, has taken on a new husband! This is why she cries, "I am a queen, I am not a widow. With my lovers, I have no needs. They provide my food, water, oil, and bread. When times get rough, I will rapture out of here! I will know no sorrow!"

Rev 18:4, tells us to COME OUT OF HER! 'Her', in this instance is speaking about the ONE WORLD CHURCH, the church set up by man, NOT Christ! This is spoken of in Rev 13:11. Dearly beloved, this OWC is already here! Daily, it grows in power and acceptance!

In no way are we speaking about YOUR church. If you love Christ and are keeping His commandments, YOU are His CHURCH! Keep it that way. Do not allow anyone to talk you into joining the pagan worshipping, humanistic, One World Church!

- SOME "IDOLS" TO WATCH FOR -

There is the pre-tribulation rapture, X-mas, plus many, many others, and of course, our subject, Easter.

Most Christians are ignorant of the fact that they are worshipping the pagan goddess Astarte when they participate in the "sunrise service" on Easter morning. But many ministers knowingly worship and cause their flock to worship this pagan goddess!

Before you say that you do not worship any pagan gods or goddesses, and they you only worship the Lord, Jesus Christ, ask yourself, "Do I? Or have I been tricked into worshipping a Babylonian goddess?"

Very soon, the same Priests of Babylon will try to trick you into worshipping the wrong christ. It would be foolish to ask you if that is something you would want to do. But what can you do to avoid bowing a knee to the antichrist? Be on your toes! Do not take this writer's word, nor any other mortal's word. Study God's Word, and pray for wisdom, knowledge, and understanding. If you are not studying the true Word of God and following His commandments, you could find that you have been deceived!

Even that last sentence may get your attention in a negative way. "Keeping His commandments", is a trigger phrase in some teachings. This teaching is that; "We are no longer under the Law, but under Grace." That Jesus "nailed all the laws, including the Ten Commandments to the cross".

But Jesus said in MAT 5:17: "Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil.

5:18 For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled.

5:19 Whosoever therefore shall break one of these least commandments, and shall teach men so, he shall be called the least in the kingdom of heaven: but whosoever shall do and teach (them), the same shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven..."

For a reasonable mind, it should not be too hard to understand. Jesus was addressing the ministers of today who teach that He did away with the laws. He could not have been any plainer. (See "Commandments of Men" on p.7)

If you have fallen for any of these false doctrines

so far, you are not alone. Jesus said in Matt 24:24 "For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect." (For further documentation of the deceptions for this age, please read II Cor 11:13-14, and you will see WHO does the deceiving.)

Rev 12:9 "And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent called the Devil and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him."

Satan is the most subtil of all the beasts. He WILL deceive the WHOLE world, even the very elect if it were possible. Jesus Christ said it and it is time that the WHOLE world check their Bibles, (ala Martin Luther), to see how strong their Bible knowledge is; and see if they are ready and waiting for the wrong christ! Why do so many people refuse to take the time to study the most exciting Book ever written?!

- THE SCRIBES ASK FOR A SIGN -

When the Scribes, Sadducees and Pharisees asked for a sign to prove Jesus was the true Messiah, He answered with the only words we have to prove He was the Son of the Living God. The sign He gave was a promise. If that promise can be proven false, then we have no proof that Jesus was the Son of God. You can see how quickly the plot thickens. It becomes imperative that Satan make Jesus Christ to appear to be a liar!! He has tried to do this with the help of the Whore of Revelation 17 and the modern-day teachings of the Priests of Babylon.

As you read and study, remember, Satan will deceive the whole world, even the very elect if it were possible! Not our words, but the words of Jesus Christ. Matt 24:24. Why do so many think they cannot be deceived? While you are there, read Matt 24:19. We will cover that verse later!

These Priests of Baal are blindly leading the blind. Some are so obvious, it would appear they teach false doctrine by choice in order to keep up the "traditions of the church".

Mark 7:6-9 "...This people honoreth Me with their lips, but their hearts are far from Me.

7. "Howbeit in vain do they worship Me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men.

8. "For laying aside the commandments of God, ye hold the traditions of men, as the washing of pots and cups: and many other such like things ye do."

9. And He said unto them, "Full well ye reject the commandments of God, that ye may keep your own traditions."

Matt. 12:39 & 40, But He answered and said unto them, "an evil and adulterous generation seeketh after a sign; and there shall no sign be given to it, but the sign of the prophet Jonah:

Matt 12:40 "For as Jonas was three days and three nights in the whale's belly; so shall the Son of man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth." Jonah 1:17 "...And Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights."

Let no one try to tell you any different, be he preacher, teacher, priest, or the Pope himself. When anyone says Jesus did not stay in the heart of the earth (grave) three days and three nights, they are false teaching! This deception is one of the lies that are being used to deceive the many.

Some clergy would have you believe that Jesus was speaking about another way of counting days and nights, but was He? No! One trick they slipped in to deceive the faithful was to count the time differently. Their theory: Christ was on the cross for nine hours; from 9 A.M. to 12 noon on Friday, would count as one day; from noon until 3 P.M., during the time of darkness as the first night; then from 3 P.M. until 6 P.M. is counted as the second day; from 6 P.M. until 6 A.M. Saturday as the second night; from 6 A.M. until 6 P.M. as the third day; then from 6 P.M. until 6 A.M. as the third night!

Did you catch this deception? Firstly, Jesus said: "...as Jonas was three days and three nights in the whale's belly, so shall the Son of man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth." According to their count, He was very much alive, still on the cross

on their first two days and one night! Secondly, Jesus left no doubt to a reasonable person, that He meant three days and three nights, seventy two hours.

John 11:9 & 10, Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours in the day? If any man walk in the day, he stumbl-eth not, because he seeth the light of this world. 10. But if a man walk in the night, he stumbleth, because there is no light in him."

Here, we know that Jesus was speaking about a twelve hour day and a twelve hour night for a twenty-four hour day. However, there is a difference of how the date was counted. The Hebrew day is from 6 PM to 6 PM.

THE JEWISH CALENDAR

The Jews used two kinds of calendars:

Civil Calendar — official calendar of kings, childbirth, and contracts.

Sacred Calendar — from which festivals were computed.

NAMES OF MONTHS	CORRESPONDS WITH	NO. OF DAYS	MONTH OF CIVIL YEAR	MONTH OF SACRED YEAR
TISHRI	Sept-Oct	30 days	1st	7th
HESHVAN	Oct-Nov	29 or 30	2nd	8th
KISLEV	Nov-Dec	29 or 30	3rd	9th
TEBETH	Dec-Jan	29	4th	10th
SHEBAT	Jan-Feb	30	5th	11th
ADAR	Feb-Mar	29 or 30	6th	12th
NISAN	Mar-Apr	30	7th	1st
IYAR	Apr-May	29	8th	2nd
SIVAN	May-June	30	9th	3rd
TAMMUZ	June-July	29	10th	4th
AB	July-Aug	30	11th	5th
ELUL	Aug-Sept	29	12th	6th

* Hebrew months were alternately 30 and 29 days long. Their year shorter than ours had 354 days. There fore, about every 3 years (7 times in 19 years) an extra 29 day month, VEADAR, was added between ADAR and NISAN.

- THE HEBREW CALENDARS -

The Civil Calendar is the official calendar for reigns of kings, contracts, and birth dates.

The Sacred Calendar is used to compute the Sabbaths and High Holy Days.

The Hebrew calendars were made up of alternating 30 and 29 days. Using this method, there were 354 days in a year. Being shorter than our solar year, the shortage was made up by adding an extra month, named Veadar, every three years or seven times every nineteen years. This

nineteen year period is known as the Solar Cycle. (When all the planets are in the same location in relation to the sun and stars.)

- FEAST DAYS AND HOLY DAYS OF THE ISRAELITE

(The Hebrew day is from 6 PM to 6 PM.)

Hebrew Year	5746-47	5747-48	5748-49	5749-50	5750-51	5750-51
Gregorian Year	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991
Feast of: Lots or Purim	Tuesday, 25 March	Sunday, 15 March	Thursday, 3 March	Monday, 20 March	11 March	28 Feb
Passover	Thursday, 24 April	Tuesday, 14 April	Saturday, 2 April	Thursday, 20 April	10 April	30 March
Pesach / Pascha	Friday, 13 June	Wednesday, 3 June	Friday, 27 May	Friday, 9 June	30 May	19 May
Pentecost	Thursday, 4 October	Thursday, 24 Sept.	Monday, 12 Sept.	Saturday, 30 Sept.	20 Sept.	9 Sept.
Shabout (Weeks)	Monday, 13 Oct	Saturday, 30 Oct	Wednesday, 21 Sept.	Monday, 9 October	29 Sept.	18 Sept.
Hebrew New Year	Saturday, 18 Oct	Thursday, 8 Oct	Monday, 26 Sept.	Saturday, 14 Oct	4 Oct	23 Sept.
Rosh Hashanah	Monday, 13 Oct	Saturday, 30 Oct	Wednesday, 21 Sept.	Monday, 9 October	29 Sept.	18 Sept.
Atonement	Saturday, 18 Oct	Thursday, 8 Oct	Monday, 26 Sept.	Saturday, 14 Oct	4 Oct	23 Sept.
Yom Kippur	Saturday, 18 Oct	Thursday, 8 Oct	Monday, 26 Sept.	Saturday, 14 Oct	4 Oct	23 Sept.
Tabernacles	Saturday, 18 Oct	Thursday, 8 Oct	Monday, 26 Sept.	Saturday, 14 Oct	4 Oct	23 Sept.
Succot (Booths)	Saturday, 18 Oct	Thursday, 8 Oct	Monday, 26 Sept.	Saturday, 14 Oct	4 Oct	23 Sept.
Chinese Calendar	Tiger	Hare (Rabbit)	Dragon	Snake	Horse *	Sheep#
Year of the:	Tiger	Hare (Rabbit)	Dragon	Snake	Horse *	Sheep#

* Could this be the White horse of Rev 19:11?

The Israelite People = The Sheep People!! With rabbit being one of the least able to defend it's self, it could stand for the Israelites going into tribulation and persecution in 1987. The dragon, followed with the snake into 1990, would be the 3 1/2 years of Satan's rule (cut short). Then in 1990 the white horse carrying Jesus Christ into battle, with the Sheep People coming into our own in 1991...!! Conjecture.

These Feast Days were given to us as an everlasting (to the end of this age) covenant by the Father. Pass-over was given to us to be a feast to the Lord throughout all our generations. (See Exo 12:12 - 17) Should we not observe them? Jesus told us in Luke 22:19: "This is my body which is given for you: this do in remembrance of Me." If your minister says you are not to partake of the "Lord's Supper" anymore, please show him/her I Cor 11:21-24.

We will be studying these feast days in future issues of THE SHEPHERD'S VOICE. It is important that we regain the knowledge we lost when our fathers sinned in Israel, the northern kingdom. When they built the alters to false gods in Dan and Bethel, they were asking for chas-tisement in their idolatry.

Our Father gave us the Covenant of Jesus Christ to wash us clean and cause Him to never remember our

iniquities. We are in the last days. The Father has ordained that we are to regain our face, and He has promised to take us back! Praise Him for His mercies!

- THE SACRED CALENDAR -

(See page 10)

We will only cover the Sacred Calendar since we are more interested in the High Holy Days and the Sabbaths, but there is also a civil calendar which was used as the official calendar of kings, childbirth, and contracts.

Notice that the Hebrew Calendar had months of 29 days and 30 days used alternately, which added up to 354 days, therefore periodically an extra month of 29 days needed to be inserted as the thirteenth. This month, known as Veadar, was inserted between Adar and Nisan.

The 19 year cycle referred to is the solar cycle. Our solar system is in the same relative location every 19 years.

- Commandments of Men -

Mark 7:7-9, "Howbeit in vain do they worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men." Jesus was saying that when we worship Him by the doctrines of man, not according to the commandments of God; that we are worshipping the creature in place of the Creator. We are to worship Yahveh, Elohim the God of Creation, the I AM, the Eternal Father, THE ONE GOD. We are to worship Him according to His teachings, and not worship ourselves!

He said, "I am a jealous God, call me Jealous." His first commandment ends with: "Thou shalt have no other gods before Me. (Heb. paniym paw-neem' and paneh paw-neh' = before My face) Elohim is saying: "Do not love other gods. I love you and will not tolerate your going whoring after other gods, as I AM Jealous!"

Mark 7:8, "For laying aside the commandments of God, ye hold the traditions of men, as the washing of pots and cups: and many other such like things ye do."

7:9. And He said unto them, "Full well ye reject the commandments of God, that ye may keep your own traditions."

- POPE VICTOR I (c. 189-199) -

The "traditions of men" Christ was speaking of, was the doctrine of the First Roman Synod, convoked by Pope Victor I (189-198 C.E.) According to records in the Vatican, he was noted for bringing a brief peace in the Easter controversy.

The following is gleaned from a document at the Vatican:

Pope Victor I, was an African, the son of Felix. Upon her request he gave Marcia, the wife of Emperor Commodus, a list of Christians condemned to work in the mines of Sardinia. She then secured their release. (See Rev 18:24)

This helped to bring about a peace for awhile, but Pope Victor I did not like to see "one group of Christians (Catholics) observing the fast of lent and commemorating Christ's passion, while other Christians were joyously celebrating the feast of the resurrection." (Passover)

Pope Victor ordered Polycrates, bishop of Ephesus, to call the Asiatic bishops into a council and get them to follow the Western custom of celebrating Easter on Sunday.

Polycrates called an assembly, "but informed the Pope that neither he nor the Asiatic bishops could abandon the tradition of St. John and St. Philip."

This infuriated the Pope. He ordered the church to celebrate Easter on Sunday. All but the bishops of Asia Minor obeyed him. (These were the churches Paul had ministered to.) Pope Victor excommunicated them all, but Irenaeus, the bishop of Lyons (France), pleaded their case and got the Pope to relent. However, "after this time the practice of celebrating Easter on Sunday spread through the East."

* * *

The preceding article carried the official Seal of the Vatican, with 'Ghirlandajo, Sistine Chapel, the Vatican' across the bottom of the page.

From other sources, we found that Pope Victor carried

FOR ALL OUR SINS? To teach that we have a hard task to get forgiveness for our sins, is to contend that Christ did not die hard enough; did not suffer enough; that He lied when He said, "It is finished."

Beloved, He did it ALL. He completed the commission He was given of the Father because He LOVES you. He IS NOT looking for excuses to destroy us, but is pleading for us to accept the gift of salvation He made possible at Calvary. To teach that one must come down to the "mourner's bench, and beg Him for ten days to two weeks or until we "pray our way through", to forgive us our sins, is NOT what we have just read in God's holy Bible. He is not sitting in some comfortable place, while we beg for forgiveness, then periodically open the door to let one or two in! Praise Him! That is man's foolishness!

I Joh 1:10 If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar, and His word is not in us.

It seems some men go around seeking ways to "make Him a liar"! Amen?

Perhaps some of the false teaching is from ignorance, but this should not be so. He gave us His Word to read and study, not be a dust catcher. When we were going with someone we dearly cared for, we felt so madly in love we could not get enough time to be alone with them. We could not learn enough about one another to sate our appetites. Favorite colors; music; food; books, etc. were so very important for us to know about each other. We wanted to please each other in every way, right? Well, this is exactly the same relationship the Eternal Father wants with His children.

The Father wants us to love Him with every fiber of our body, soul and mind. Nothing less is good enough, but because He loves us, He will forgive us of our lack of caring. However, He will not allow His loved one to carry on with other gods without taking action.

Sometimes, man does not "have the time for Him"; "too busy"; "don't feel good", etc., but excuses are just that, excuses.

Matt 22:40 explains that the principles involved here, are the very foundation of THE LAWS OF HEAVEN. What is bound on earth is bound in heaven, the Kingdom govern-

ment of God. What is bound in heaven are the principles, laws if you prefer, we will spend all eternity living by. (Of course, there is an alternative to loving God and obeying His rules, we CAN choose to perish!)

"And there shall in no wise enter into it any thing that defileth, neither whatsoever worketh abomination, or maketh a lie: but they which are written in the Lamb's book of life." Rev 21:27

Many will not read this article as far as you already have, because they do not want to know what God wants them to know. They have been taught that if they do not know about these principles, they are safe. When we break man's law, we can not say, "I did not know that was the law." The judge will say, "Ignorance of the law, is not a defense." God wants us to study the Bible so we can be built up to withstand the attacks of Satan! (If we think he has already been attacking us, in a little while when he is kicked out of heaven, we will find how his wrath can really be turned on. At the three Woe, Woe, Woes of Revelations 8:13, Satan will dwell upon the earth. Rev 12:12-13.)

Resist him (Satan) and he will flee, but if we do not know how to resist him, he will hang around until he has destroyed us! Is it not important for us to learn the Truths of His Word?

RAPTURE, SECRET OR OTHERWISE!

Some are thinking, "I will not be here at that time, I will be "raptured" out of here." Please find the word "rapture" in the entire Bible. Why do Christian scholars place so much emphasis on a word not found in the Bible? Again, it is because so many will not search the TRUE WORD of GOD, the Holy Bible. It is easier to let some one tell us little stories than to read and study the truth for ourselves. (For the history of the "rapture" teaching, send for "The Pre-Trib Rapture, Is It Of God or Satan?")

This laziness will cost dearly. When one allows the blind to lead, he shall stumble, causing a "falling away" to take place. Though some teachers say the, "falling away" mentioned in II Thess 2:3, means apostasy, but this

is not the exact case. When Paul said, "...except there come a falling away first...", he did not use the word 'apostasy'. Instead, he used the word 'apostasias', Gr. word 646 which means defection from the truth, fem. of 647 APOSTASION = divorcement. What Paul said, translated into English was; 'They will divorce themselves from the truth in order to marry a lie!'

Many Christian brothers and sisters, even though they love God, go to church every Sunday and do not get the teachings necessary to build up their knowledge to resist Satan. Unfortunately, many of them are uncaring, Bible illiterates, but worse are the ones who know, but do not care!

Since we have already prepared a booklet, "RAPTURE, IS IT OF GOD OR SATAN", we will not go any further on this, but Jesus said in Matt 24:29 that the Son of man would come AFTER the tribulations, of which we are now entering.

- EASTER IS A PAGAN HOLIDAY -

Easter is a pagan holiday. It has been instituted into Christian worship by BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH, the whore of Rev. 17 and 18, the church which sits on seven hills and reigneth over the kings of the earth! (In conjunction with a powerful ally.)

According to Josephus, by the time the Apostles had died, the first church of Jesus Christ was in a state of confusion. Conflict had been breaking out in the different churches over the teachings and their meanings, or translations. Instead of being one strong church, they eventually broke into several sects with different creeds and beliefs. (Sounds like today!)

The Christian church of Rome, founded by the apostle Paul, suffered persecution at the hands of the pagan worshipping Romans. It was infiltrated and gradually changed to a NEW CHURCH, a church that became more and more apostate. By the time the pagan gods, idols, and other abominations were introduced, they were ready to accept the "queen of heaven", Ishtar, as well as all the

false teachings of man.

During the time of this downfall, there were still pockets of true believers keeping the faith, and teachings of Christ. It was this group that suffered the terrible persecutions we read about. They were fed to the lions, butchered by the gladiators and soldiers, and many other atrocities too numerous to mention! The Romans did anything that would be entertaining to the idol worshipping populace, as well as to prevent others from joining this "fringe of Christian lunatics".

These true believers, the TRUE BODY of Christ, are seldom mentioned, nor remembered in the secular histories of the world. This little flock, hated, persecuted and scattered to the wilderness of the world, is still intact and waiting for the Saviour. He said, "Fear not, little flock: for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom." Luke 12:32

He was not speaking about the apostate church, or churches, but to the little flock who is willing to undergo the persecutions He suffered. In His persecution, He paid the price for all sins, but we will also be persecuted as an ensample to the "weaker Christians", who are not founded in His Word.

With the shamle the church is in today, it is easily understood how the Roman type of public persecution would deter the quasi Christians from becoming a part of a movement that would take away the "easy ways of idol worship"! Today, there are still quasi Christians looking for churches that will go easy on the things God calls "abomination", e.g. Homosexuality, abortion, apostasy, etc., but the greatest abomination of all is IDOLATRY in the church!

- THE PASSOVER, ORDAINED OF GOD -

In a discussion with a local minister, the subject of Easter was brought up. Using Scripture, we showed how we were to observe Christ's resurrection. (Luke 22, et al) We discussed the Passover, the Hebrew calendar, and how we were to keep the feast days. None of it seemed to interest him, but through courtesy, he listened. At the end of the conversation he said, "I do not care what you

say, I do not care what the Bible says, I WILL CONTINUE TO OBSERVE CHRISTMAS and EASTER!" Only One can overcome this form of blind deception, that being the Living God.

- WHAT IS PASSOVER? -

Compton's Encyclopedia describes how the children of Israel celebrated, with song and praise, the festival of freedom-Passover. It commemorates the deliverance of the Hebrews from slavery in Egypt.

"On the eve of the first two days of Passover, the family gathers at the Seder, the Passover banquet, to rejoice and thank God. The table is set with the best linen and adorned with the family setting, which is used only during Passover." (The very best is used to honor God and His SPECIAL Sabbaths! Can, or should we do less?)

"The father is seated at the head of the table, with the symbols used to explain the story of Passover, placed before him. There are three cakes of MATZOTH, or unleavened bread, as a reminder of the haste the Israelites were forced to leave Egypt. They were not given time to prepare for their long journey, nor to allow their bread to rise but had to take the unleavened dough with them to bake on their way.

"A lamb bone and a roasted egg to commemorate the burnt offering God commanded them to make, when He promised to pass over their homes and not take their firstborn. Horseradish or another bitter herb is used to represent the bitter life the Hebrews had to suffer in Egypt. A paste of nuts, apples and cinnamon, resembles the clay and mortar used in laying bricks, this is to represent the cruel labor exacted by the Egyptians.

"Passover falls at about the same time as the Christian holiday, EASTER, which was another of the holidays instituted by Emperor Constatine, to blend Babylon paganism with Christianity." (Underline placed by this author. Also, Easter was observed many centuries before Christ! Pope Victor I ordered it to be observed before his death in 198 A.D." (See p. 10. FGB)

In Ausubel's 'BOOK OF JEWISH KNOWLEDGE', he reports: "The most beloved of all Jewish (Israelite) holidays is

the festival of Passover. Symbolically, in its most meaningful sense, it represents a cherished traditional Jewish value - a love of freedom. That is the reason why, in the religious literature of the Jews, the festival is referred to pridefully as "the Season of Our Freedom."

- THE ORDINANCE OF PASSOVER -

In the 12th chapter of Exodus, we find where God commanded the Passover to be prepared throughout ALL generations! It was the tenth and last plague, the taking of the firstborn of Egypt. It punished Egypt to the point of releasing the Israelite slaves, who worshipped such a powerful God. Therefore, it became the most sacred of all Israelite religious observances.

Exodus 12:1 And the Lord spake unto Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt saying,

12:2 This month (shall be) unto you the beginning of months: it (shall be) the first month of the year to you.

'The first month of the year to you', means the month the Hebrew children were released from the terrible bondage they were under was the first month of the rest of their lives! This was known as Abib, (Spring or the greening), but is now better known as the month of Nisan.

12:3 Speak ye unto all the congregation of Israel, saying, In the tenth (day) of this month they shall take to them every man a lamb, according to the house of (their) fathers, a lamb for an house:

12:4 And if the household be too little for the lamb, let him and his neighbour next unto his house take (it) according to the number of the souls; every man according to his eating shall make your count for the lamb.

12:5 Your lamb shall be without blemish, a male of the first year: ye shall take (it) out from the sheep, or from the goats:

The 4th verse shows us to be frugal with our blessings, and not to take life unnecessarily.

EXO 12:6 And ye shall keep it up until the fourteenth day of the same month: and the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill it in the evening.

12:7 And they shall take of the blood, and strike (it)

on the two side posts and on the upper door post of the houses, wherein they shall eat it. ('Upper door post' = the lintel, or crossbar at the top of the door.)

12:8 And they shall eat the flesh in that night, roast with fire, and unleavened bread; (and) with bitter (herbs) they shall eat it.

12:9 Eat not of it raw, nor sodden at all with water, but roast (with) fire; his head with his legs, and with the purtenance thereof. (sodden = boiled)

12:10 And ye shall let nothing of it remain until the morning; and that which remaineth of it until the morning ye shall burn with fire. (This is basically the direction they received in the wilderness concerning the manna.)

12:11 And thus shall ye eat it; (with) your loins girded, your shoes on your feet, and your staff in your hand; and ye shall eat it in haste: it (is) the Lord's Passover.

This verse tells of their eminent deliverance, and they were to be ready to flee. "Loins girded", means to reach between your legs and grab your skirt*, and tuck it under your girth, or belt-like fastener. Shoes on = shod. "Staff in you hand" = to be prepared to fight.

(*In the mid-east, most men and women wore skirts until recently, some still do. Europeans wore robes or skirts until about six hundred years ago. Those that would condemn some lady for wearing "men's clothes" are ignorant of what that particular verse means. The "men's clothes" was in reference to the headband both men and women wore. The man's headband had markings designating his rank, while the women had no rank.)

12:12 For I will pass through the land of Egypt this night, and will smite all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and against all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgment: I (AM) the Lord.

Who took the lives of the firstborn? The I AM allowed the destroyer, to kill all who disobeyed His ordinance of the Passover, just as the destroyer has permission to torment all who do not love God today! How often have we heard about the Death Angel went through all of Egypt, taking the lives of the firstborn of the families without the blood of the Passover lamb on their door? Satan is a

murder, but he cannot take life without permission!

12:13 And the blood shall be to you for a token upon the houses where ye (are): and when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and the plague shall not be upon you to destroy (you), when I smite the land of Egypt.

As the blood of the young lamb saved the Israelites of the captivity, the Blood of the Lamb of God will save those who are washed in it today! Praise God!!

When our Father sees His Son's blood covering us, he does NOT see our sins nor iniquities! Even if He could, Jesus would say, "He or she is alright Father, they are Mine!" Allelujah! Glory to The Lamb!!

12:14 And this day shall be unto you for a memorial; and ye shall keep it a feast to the Lord throughout your generations; ye shall keep it a feast by an ordinance for ever.

Here, the Lord is giving the Israelites a day for a memorial to keep as a feast day for ALL GENERATIONS forever! (Until the end of this age) Dear ones, this age is not over yet, why are we slack in observing this day? If you do not know who True Israel is, send in for our study by the same name. True Israel has "lost their face" for a time, but it is time to regain it now!

EXO 12:15 Seven days shall ye eat unleavened bread; even the first day ye shall put away leaven out of your houses: for whosoever eateth leavened bread from the first day until the seventh day, that soul shall be cut off from Israel.

According to His Word, "a little leavening..." He demanded that all leaven be kicked out of the house! If anyone got caught with leaven in their house, it meant death! Leaven usually means sins, or iniquity. He wants all sin and iniquity put away from us, which includes IDOLATRY! Kick idolatry out of His house. He will not honor any idolatrous act, even if done in ignorance. (See Joshua 7, Achan) If you attend a church that will not "kick idolatry out", then YOU COME OUT! (Rev 18)

12:16 And in the first day (there shall be) an holy convocation, and in the seventh day there shall be an holy convocation to you; no manner of work shall be done in them, save (that) which every man must eat, that only

may be done of you.

How do Christians observe their sabbaths today? Are they remembered and kept holy...?

12:17 And ye shall observe (the feast of) unleavened bread; for in this selfsame day have I brought your armies out of the land of Egypt: therefore shall ye observe this day in your generations by an ordinance for ever.

Again, we are admonished to observe this feast day.

12:18 In the first (month), on the fourteenth day of the month at even, (6 PM) ye shall eat unleavened bread, until the one and twentieth day of the month at even.

12:19 Seven days shall there be no leaven found in your houses: for whosoever eateth that which is leavened, even that soul shall be cut off from the congregation of Israel, whether he be a stranger, or born in the land.

"...whether he be stranger...", again shows that God WILL NOT honor iniquity, abominations, idolatry, etc. even when done in ignorance. Beloved, study His Word. Many saints were martyred in order to bring His Word to this day. Use it.

12:20 Ye shall eat nothing leavened; in all your habitations shall ye eat unleavened bread.

We have gone to the Bible and brought the main part of chapter 12 of Exodus to show what God ordained. We were told to observe this feast day for all generations. Dearly beloved, we are in the last generation, but few Christians are aware of the Passover being for us, even for today!

Yes, there are those who claim that Jesus nailed ALL the laws to the cross, even the Ten Commandments! Please go to: Colossians 3:14 "Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to the cross..."

Since this is not necessarily a part of our study in this booklet, and was covered on pages 9 and 10, we will only point this out to you:

1. Jesus paid the price for all sin. The subject of the first sentence is "handwriting"... against us. In every reference the subject is called 'it', NOT them! If this verse meant all the laws and ordin-

ances, the article would be 'them', plural.

2. "Blotting" is the verb, meaning to blot out. This is used in an accounting sense. When a bill is paid, the charges are blotted out of the ledger. See Acts 3:19

3. Jesus said in Matt 5:17-18, that He came not to destroy the law and the prophets, but to fulfill them. 5:18 "For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled."

Dearly beloved, the earth is still here and heaven will soon be here, therefore, NOT one jot or one tittle has passed away!

[For a more complete study on this subject, send for our tape: "THE TEN COMMANDMENTS GONE?"]

The ordinances God handed down FOR US are still in effect. He GAVE us the Passover to observe for all generations. The Passover ordinance is NOT AGAINST us, but is a memorial of remembrance of what He did FOR US!

- THE PASSOVER FOR ISRAELITES AND CONVERTED GENTILES -

From the preceding material, one can see the Passover was instituted to bring the Israelites out of slavery. The Passover lamb was symbolic for the Sacrificial Lamb of God to come nearly two thousand years later, to again bring us out of slavery. But this time, it was for our slavery to sin, which we chose to do! Oh, beloved, He still loves us!!

Just as the Passover lamb shed its blood to cover and protect the earthly houses of the Hebrews, Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God, shed His blood to cover and protect our souls!

As the Passover lamb was a form of redemption from the slavery of and by man, the Lamb of God is the redeemer for man from sin and Satan.

As the Passover lamb suffered not one bone to be broken, the Lamb of God did not suffer one bone to be broken either!

One may say, "Yes, but the Passover was for the Israel-

ites, but we are gentiles!" Without getting into our teaching on True Israel, let it suffice that when a gentile is converted to Jesus Christ, he is the "grafted on, or adopted branch". He is an Israelite by adoption!

There are hundreds of millions of True Israelites out there, who call themselves "gentiles" because of the deception (lies) taught for so many centuries by them who would steal our inheritance, but this is the time of awakening. Not many years ago NO ONE spoke about True Israel, but today there are several hundred ministers teaching the truths we lost over two thousand years ago!

ALL Christians are to observe Passover. Satan has stolen this PRIVILEGE from us, but it is time for the 'spirit of slumber to be lifted from our eyes'. In 1987, Passover will be 14 April, let the pagan, apostate churches, who will not heed the Word of God, worry about Easter, it is NOT for us!

- BEDE, EARLY CHURCH HISTORIAN ON PASSOVER -

The Church historian, Bede, wrote in his ECCLESIASTICAL HISTORY OF THE ENGLISH NATION that the Apostle John kept the Passover on the evening of the fourteenth day of Nisan, if it fell on the Sabbath or not! This is as God commanded. Bede goes on to show that the Bible explains how Jesus Christ partook of the old Passover, substituting the New Testament symbols of the bread for His body and wine for His blood, on the fourteenth day of the first month (Nisan). Also, the wine spoken of here was wine and not grape juice, as so many churches have been serving in these later years.

Bede tells us that the Passover was kept until the seventh century in Scotland, but was done away with everywhere else!

The 1968 edition of "World Almanac" reports that the second century Christians celebrated Easter on the 14th day of Nisan, the first month of the Hebrew Sacred Calendar.

These would be the churches Paul started in Galatia, Ephesus, Corinth, etc. So through these churches, we know Paul taught that we were to celebrate the Passover on the 14th of Nisan, regardless of which day of the week

it fell on. Why then do we set aside a Sunday for this observance? We will show you why in a later part of this booklet.

- THE ESTABLISHMENT OF EASTER -

Compton's Encyclopedia reports that the greatest festival of the Christian church is Easter, which commemorates the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. This is a movable feast; that is, it is not always held on the same date.

Dearly beloved, is this what we were told to do? To move Passover to any date of the year, for our own convenience? No, we were instructed to hold the Passover on the 14th of the first month (14 Nisan) at even (evening). Is it not strange that "evening" starts with "eve", which = Heb. Chavvah, first, as first woman, life giver? "Even" = Heb. 'erab, from 'arab, pronounced aw'rab, meaning dusk, to mix races, to mingle, as light is mingled with darkness.

All the above to make this point:

MAT 28:1 In the end of the sabbath, as it began to dawn toward the first (day) of the week, came Mary Magdalene and the other Mary to see the sepulchre.

Remember, the first day started at 6 P.M. "In the end of the sabbath", can only mean ONE thing, the sabbath was nearing its end and the first day was dawning.

28:2 And, behold, there was a great earthquake: for the angel of the Lord descended from heaven, and came and rolled back the stone from the door, and sat upon it.

28:3 His countenance was like lightning, and his raiment white as snow:

28:4 And for fear of him the keepers* did shake, and became as dead (men). *keepers = guards

28:5 And the angel answered and said unto the women, Fear not ye: for I know that ye seek Jesus, which was crucified.

28:6 He is not here: for he is risen, as he said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay.

When the first day started, Jesus had already risen and departed the area. The sabbath was Saturday, NOT Sunday!

When Mary Magdalene, and "the other Mary" came to the

sepulcher, the first day had just started. This would be 6 P.M., so why is Easter observed on Easter Sunday A.M.?!

Let us go to the root of this problem to see why we are being deceived into idolatry:

Christ kept the Passover, He taught the Apostles to keep the Passover, and in doing so, He taught us to keep the Passover. We are ordained to observe the Passover for ALL generations! Then why are we not keeping it? We have been deceived into worshipping on the holidays of other gods and goddesses under the guise of "official Christian" theology!"

The crown of Antichrist is being prepared for him now, and many unfounded Christians are furnishing the material, money and the vehicle for him to use when he comes to power! They will follow him, and will take his "mark" as soon as the "mark" is made available!! If you do not know what the "mark" is, study the curse of Cain. If you think it is "666" tattooed on your forehead, or in your hand, you really need to study the Word.

Continuing with Compton's account: "The church council of Nicaea decided that Easter should be observed on the first SUNDAY AFTER THE FIRST FULL MOON on or after the first equinox. With this counting, it can come as early as March the twenty second and as late as April twenty-fifth. Even though it can come at anytime during this thirty day period, it must fall on a Sunday, but NEVER on the same day as Passover!"

Who were the council of Nicaea? Officials of the Roman Catholic Church. This is not to condemn that church, or any other church, as I do not write the history books, but to show HOW the pagan "traditions of man" were slipped into our Christian services today!

God counts His time in days. Day means light, whereas evil lurks at night, or during darkness. Noah was shut up in the ark for 150 days, the locusts will harm the world for five months. Although these are two ways of counting, they will figure out to be an equal period of time, but one has the mark of Satan on it. Also, there is a message here for the Bible scholar!

"In the Roman Catholic church," says Compton, "lent is observed for six weeks and four days - from Ash

Wednesday to midnight of Holy Saturday, the day before Easter."

"...The Easter service is the most elaborate celebration of the church year. Besides the services in the churches, there are outdoor sunrise services..."

- SUNRISE SERVICE; THE 'QUEEN OF HEAVEN' AND BAAL -

Now let us start to answer some of these rituals in God's Holy Bible. Ezek 8:15-16 Then said He unto me, "Hast thou seen this, O son of man? Turn thee yet again, and thou shalt see greater abominations than these." 16. And He brought me into the inner court of the Lord's house, and, behold, at the door of the temple of the Lord, between the porch and the altar, were about five and twenty men, with their backs toward the temple of the Lord, and their faces toward the east; and they worshipped the sun toward the east.

Are you getting the picture God was showing Ezekiel? They were worshipping the sun god, Baal! "What", you may ask, "has that got to do with Easter?"

This is the bottom line, the reason you are reading this booklet. What God was showing Ezekiel, was an abomination to Him, the Eternal Father. Easter is the English pronunciation of Astarte, the Phoenician's goddess, Ishtar of the Babylonians, or Beltis the queen of heaven.

Baal worship is a terrible abomination to God, yet the priests of Baal lead millions of true Christians in this worship service every Easter. Do you think they all do this in innocence? Do ministers, with "Doctor of Divinity" after their names, do these terrible abominations in ignorance? Perhaps most of them are this naive, but there are still plenty of Baal's priests out there doing their father's work. See II Cor 11 to see what Paul tells us to look for.

Who is this Easter goddess? Alexander Hislop says in "The Two Babylons", Easter is Astarte, a title of Beltis, the queen of heaven. Then, who is the Queen of heaven?

Jeremiah 7:18 The children gather wood, and the fathers kindle the fire, and the women knead their dough, to make cakes to the queen of heaven, and to pour out

drink offerings unto other gods, that they may provoke Me to anger. 7:19 Do they provoke Me to anger? saith the Lord: do they provoke themselves to confusion of their own faces?

"...provoke themselves to confusion of their own faces..."! This was the cause of Israel losing her "face", her identity, and cause God to "divorce her"! Idolatry was abomination then and is abomination today. We MUST NOT worship idols!

Jer 44:18 But since we left off to burn incense to the queen of heaven, and to pour out drink offerings unto her, we have wanted all things, and have been consumed by the sword and by the famine.

From these scriptures, one can see that worship of this goddess, Easter, is not the best way to please Elohim! That there is NO QUEEN OF HEAVEN except in pagan worship.

Exo 20:4 Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth:

20:5 Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the Lord thy God AM a jealous GOD (El), visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children to the third and fourth (generation) of them that hate Me; 20:6 And shewing mercy unto thousands of them that love Me, and keep My commandments.

Beloved, you have just read the Second Commandment. In it, El said: "Make no graven image; Not bow down to any image; Not serve any image." Images are statutes, pictures, representations of ANYTHING in, on, or under the earth, or in heaven. These would include beads, pieces of metal, wood, stone of ANYONE, or anything, including our beloved Saviour, His mother, Mary; the saints who have died; and any man still on earth, be he priest or the Pope.

We are to call NO MAN "father", as we only have one Spiritual Father, Who is in heaven. If you call your sire father, dad, or whatever you choose, this is not what was meant. You do not call any one father except the Father and your earthly, genetic father. DO NOT

worship your minister, your priest, or any public or private individual. This would come under the Second Commandment of God.

The ancient Chaldeans worshipped Baal as their sun god, with Astarte as his consort. You can see why worship of this nature can quickly get our Father's anger stirring!

Hislop goes on to say: "The festival, of which we read in Church history, under the name of Easter, in the third or fourth centuries, was quite a different festival from that now observed in the Romanish Church, and at that time was not known by any such name as Easter. It was called Pascha, or the Passover... That festival agreed originally with the time of the Jewish (Hebrew) Passover when Christ was crucified... That festival was not idolatrous, and it was preceded by no Lent."

Dearly beloved, study God's Word. Knowledge in His Word will keep you from bowing a knee to Antichrist through the love you will develop for Jesus Christ and the plan of God. If you are aware of the total plan, no one will be able to deceive you into worshipping the wrong christ! But if we are not studying, and are not preparing, "we will be like a leaf in the wind", blowing first this way and then that...

We could cite many more verses, but space will not allow us to use them all. WE are sure you will be able to find more. Now, let us get to the root of this problem and find out why we are being seduced into idolatry:

- IDOLATRY IN THE CHURCH -

Let no one try to tell you that Jesus did not stay in the heart of the earth (grave) three days and three nights, be he preacher, teacher, priest or the Pope himself. It is false! That is one of the lies that are being used to deceive many.

Here is a report which may help to convince the many deceived:

- THE RESURRECTION OF CHRIST -

(Which day did it occur?)

The question of the time of Christ's resurrection,

which has been so long rejected by the Christian world, is now coming to the light of investigation; and we are happy to state that many, who for years have supposed Good Friday to be the crucifixion day of Christ, are seeing and accepting the light - that Good Friday and Easter Sunday applied to the Catholic Church, handed down to us from the dark ages.

When the scribes and came to Christ and demanded that He give them a sign that He was the Son of God (Mat 12:38-40), His answer:

MAT 12:38 Then certain of the scribes and of the Pharisees answered, saying, "Master, we would see a sign from thee."

12:39 But he answered and said unto them, "An evil and adulterous generation seeketh after a sign; and there shall no sign be given to it, but the sign of the prophet Jonas:

12:40 "For as Jonas was three days and three nights in the whale's belly; so shall the Son of man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth."

He said plainly that there would be no other sign given them. Then, if this sign failed, according to Jesus Himself, He is not the Christ. And for any who have been informed, to claim Christ to have been crucified on Friday and resurrected on Sunday morning, is denying the divinity of Christ, and to brand themselves as Christ deniers, for they try to disprove the only sign He gave of His Messiahship - that He would be in the earth three days and three nights between Friday and Sunday.

We learn by the three Gospels (Matt. 27:45, 48, 50; Mark 15:33, 37; Luke 23:44), that from the sixth hour until the ninth hour was darkness over the earth, and that about the ninth hour Jesus died.

THE NINTH HOUR

Look up the word "day" in the back of your Bible, in Cruden's Concordance, in your Bible dictionary, or in any encyclopedia, and you will learn that the civil day of Bible times began at the going down of the sun, and ended with sunset - from evening to evening - also that the dark part was divided into watches, and the light part

into hours, namely: -

- NIGHT -

First Watch from 6 to 9 P.M.
Second Watch from 9 to 12 P.M.
third Watch from 12 to 3 A.M.
Fourth Watch from 3 to 6 A.M.

- DAY -

Third Hour from 6 to 9 A.M.
Sixth Hour from 9 to 12 Noon
Ninth Hour from 12 to 3 P.M.
Twelfth Hour from 3 to 6 P.M.

Jesus was placed in the tomb between 3 o'clock P.M. and sundown, as John 19:31-42 plainly states. This was done before the Passover Sabbath; see verses 14 and 31, and not the weekly Sabbath.

It follows then, as a natural and logical conclusion, that Christ would have to come from the tomb at the very same time of day that He was placed there, or else the sign of His being the Messiah fails - that is, He must be in the tomb three days and three nights. As He was placed in the tomb late in the afternoon, He consequently could not have been resurrected in the morning of any day, but the time of His resurrection must be in the evening in order for Him to be Christ.

The accounts given of visits to the tomb on the first day of the week (Mark 16, Luke 24, and John 20) the stone was already rolled away from the sepulchre and Christ was gone when the people arrived. From this extremely indefinite testimony no one could tell when He was resurrected. We only know that He was gone early in the morning of the first day of the week, which forever shuts out even the least possibility of the resurrection occurring on that day, as He was already gone. Also, He must come from the earth in the end of the day to be Christ, as He was placed in the tomb at the end of the day.

But we come to Matt 28:1, which says: "In the end of the Sabbath, as it began to dawn toward the first day of

the week, came Mary Magdalene and the other Mary to see the other sepulchre. (28:2) And, behold, there was a great earthquake: for the angel of the Lord descended from heaven, and came and rolled back the stone from the door, and sat upon it."

Here we learn of the first visit made to the sepulchre, which was in the end of the Sabbath, and that this was when the earthquake occurred, and when the stone was rolled from the tomb. Christ therefore was resurrected "in the end of the Sabbath" - around sundown on Saturday evening. This agrees exactly with the time of day that Christ must, according to His own words, come from the tomb.

As the statement is clearly made that this occurred in the end of the Sabbath, it could not have been on some other day, and still have been in the end of the day. Anything that is in the end of something is not in something else. The resurrection took place "as it began to dawn toward the first day of the week (Sunday)." [REMEMBER, SUNDAY STARTED AT 6 P.M.!] While now the word "dawn" is usually understood to mean the first ray of morning light, it was not so used then. The day, according to the Bible, commences in the evening, at the setting of the sun, but man has changed the commencement of the day and placed it at midnight, thus causing a change in the significance of the word "dawn: which means "to draw on" or dusk.

- WEDNESDAY CRUCIFIXION -

by: The Mount Zion Reporter,
P.O. Box 10184 - Jerusalem, Israel

Since we have learned from the Holy Scriptures that the resurrection actually occurred in the evening of the Sabbath (Saturday); also remembering the words of Jesus that He would be in the earth three days and three nights, we must count backwards three days and three nights, which brings us to Wednesday afternoon.

A letter from the superintendent of the United States Naval Observatory at Washington, D.C., dated Nov 23, 1920, and signed by W. S. Eichelberger, Captain, US Navy, states that in the year of Christ's crucifixion, the

first full moon after the spring equinox came on Tuesday, March 27th, making the 14th of Nisan (Jewish month) fall on Wednesday. The Passover is on the 14th of Nisan, which was the Sabbath for which preparations were being made at the time of the crucifixion. Christ was therefore placed in the tomb near sundown on Wednesday and arose near sundown on Saturday, making exactly three days and three nights.

This evidence agrees with the Bible in every detail, and therefore both are confirmed as as truth. Error, regardless of how long cherished must fall.

We are now at the time when Protestants should truly be Protestants, and truly protest against the false doctrines handed down from the Catholic Church without Bible foundation.

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- CONCLUSION -

You will notice that the main issue of this booklet is adultery (idolatry). Many Christians have been tricked into worshiping "other gods"! This is why the Father "divorced" Israel and Judah in the first place. He WILL NOT tolerate His bride to love another. His answer on idolatry is, "I AM a jealous God, call Me Jealous...". The first two commandments deal with our relationship with Him; to be true to Him; to love Him and Him alone!

Dearly beloved, the day of separation is swiftly approaching. He said, "Come out of her..." He meant the apostate church of the last days. How are you to know if a church is apostate? Study and be in prayer. If a church practices idolatry, knowingly substituting Easter for Passover, using the lame excuse of Easter being "traditional", COME OUT OF HER... Now that you have read this booklet, go back and study the Scriptures given, plus any and all other Scriptures you can find on this subject. If one cannot prove this booklet to be wrong according to the Scriptures, then it must be accepted as truth. If you accept the Passover as the proper day of observance, instead of the pagan goddess, Ashtar, Ishtar, the "Queen

of Heaven", and her many other names, then show it. Never again worship her!

One CANNOT serve two masters... Pagan worship is NOT of God! The "traditions of man" are not of God. If they are not of God...! Easter has nothing to do with our Saviour, nor did He have anything to do with Easter. See Luke 22:10-20

Remember this, this booklet is NOT against any denomination, church, religion or theology. Nor against the resurrection of Jesus Christ, but rather hold to His resurrection on the THIRD DAY. It was His resurrection on the THIRD DAY that proved Him to be the Son of God. This is why the enemy MUST steal this truth from us! Remember, this was the ONLY sign Jesus left for us!

His resurrection was the fulfillment of the final Covenant between the Father and man. It was His death and resurrection that made our atonement possible! Without His death and resurrection, we would ALL die the second death, our just reward for our sins! But praise God, His Son did die for us all, and He arose! He arose, and is now seated on the right Hand of the Father; The First Fruit of many...

Dear ones, if you do not know Yahshua, Jesus the Christ, as your Lord and Saviour, there is no time like the present to repent. If you have asked Him to come into your life, and then became a "backslider", He still loves you and wants you to come back into the fold. He is saying, "Come on back, I still love you and want you for My own." In the name of Jesus the Christ. Amen.

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We pray that you have been blessed. May the Father bless you according to your needs and His will.

PROPHECY FOR TODAY
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Front cover:

Our sincere thanks to Bryan Clark of Augusta, KS, for burning the "midnight oil" to give us a montage, depicting the two themes of this booklet. His comic approach to a serious problem, is uniquely suitable to blend the two themes of Christianity and paganism, and to take away some of the somberness from the findings.

Bryan is a well known singer in the church circles of his area. His theatrical, musical, and artistic abilities, are used for the glory of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. May it always be this way.

Thanks,
Fred G. Butler

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Thanks to Gary Maxwell of Radcliff, Kentucky for the
above artistic talent in depicting the crucifixion.